

USFSP HOSTS EVENTS AIMED AT CAREER, INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

January has been an exciting month for career, leadership and internship opportunities and information at USF St. Petersburg., and February will be no different. On Feb. 24, the [USFSP Career Center](#) will host the third annual [Job & Internship Fair](#) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the University Student Center Ballroom.

"It's a great opportunity for students to identify organizations that are interested in their talent," said Vaishali Gakhar, employer relations consultant & career advisor at the USFSP Career Center who coordinated the event. "It is a great networking platform for students to create connections and see what they are looking for, for talent."

Students and alumni who attend the event are required to dress professionally and to have numerous copies of their resumes available. They also are encouraged to check the website in advance to see what positions are available with each employer. This way they can be prepared for on-the-spot interviews, as the employers are encouraged to interview event participants during the event.

"We have spaces available for them to conduct interviews," Gakhar said, adding that employers who come to this type of event want to meet the best and most-prepared students and potential employees. "We don't want employers to wait until they've collected info and call students at a later time: This helps the hiring process to move faster by allowing them to be interviewed right then."

Last year, 80 organizations attended the job fair, offering about 600 opportunities in total. About 230 students and alumni attended the event.

A number of workshops will be offered in the weeks leading up to the Job & Internship Fair:

- Tuesday, Feb. 16, 5-6 p.m.: Job Fair Prep Workshop with Resume Writing (SLC 2101)
- Thursday, Feb. 18, 4-6 p.m.: Employer Resume Critiques (SLC 2100)
- Friday, Feb. 19, noon-2 p.m.: Job Fair Prep Table in Reef (USC Reef)
- Monday, Feb. 22, noon-2 p.m.: Job Fair Prep Table by Bayboro/Davis (Corridor between buildings)
- Tuesday, Feb. 23, 4-6 p.m.: Last Chance Resume Critiques (USC Ballroom)

On Jan. 27, Delta Sigma Pi presented a professional development lecture that featured Jody Levitan, a human resources representative from Raymond James. Some of the topics she discussed included the importance of internships and resume preparation, what Raymond James looks for in candidates, and emphasized interview preparation and etiquette.

The Tampa Bay Technology Forum student chapter hosted its first meeting of the year on Jan. 19, which included business leaders from Triad Media who shared their business analytics and security expertise with about 20 students, staff and faculty. The guest speakers were Jason Riffle, senior security analyst, and Adam Barron, senior director of Business Intelligence. Riffle provided an overview of the Enterprise Security systems he manages and listed core competencies for security personnel, and Barron delved deeply into the processes that shape the business intelligence environment at Triad Media and shared about some of the digital tools they employ, including Comscore, Python, and C#.

"The students were impressed," said Cherie Collins, visiting professor in MIS in the Kate Tiedemann College of Business, who serves as club advisor. "I think the students are yearning for an understanding of the application of their knowledge, and these guys spelled it out succinctly, solidifying the diversity of the field."

Dr. V. Mark Durand, interim regional vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, said USFSP is fortunate to have faculty, staff and students dedicated to creating quality career and internship opportunities.

"These experiences for our students and alumni provide invaluable lessons that complement work in the classroom and dramatically improve the chances of exceptional employment opportunities," Durand said.



A photo of people at a previous Internship and Career Fair. The photo is courtesy of the USFSP Career Center.

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